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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/645,861	08/24/2000	Luis Felipe Cabrera	MSFT-0162/142387.1	4435
7590	01/28/2004		EXAMINER	
Thomas E Watson Woodcock Washburn Kurtz Mackiewicz & Norris LLP One Liberty Place 46th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103			VU, VIET DUY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2154	7
			DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/645,861	Applicant(s) Cabrera et al
	Examiner Viet Vu	Art Unit 2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 23, 2003

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) 10-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 15-25 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Restriction:

1. Applicant is requested to cancel the withdrawn claims 10-14 in the next correspondence.

Art Rejections:

2. The texts of 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 103(a) not cited here can be found in the previous office action.
3. Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Sitka, U.S. pat. No. 6,330,572.

Sitka discloses a system and method for managing storage of data files comprising:

- a) a file system (including at least a volume server and a database server) for storing a file having at least one portion stored in a first storage location and at least one portion migrated to a second storage location wherein the first and second locations can be on the same or different physical volumes (see col 16, lines 26-65 and col 17, lines 15-30),
- b) an application program interface (API) for enabling a user to perform standard file operations including accessing meta data, copying and migrating a file (or portion of the file) from the first location to the second location (see col 9, lines 24-56).

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4. Claims 17-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sitka.

Sitka's teachings are still applied as discussed above. Sitka does not explicitly teach updating metadata after a file relocating operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to realize such metadata updating step because it would have the system to correctly keep track location of the migrated or relocated files (see col 17, lines 24-26 and col 28, lines 15-34).

Allowable Subject Matter:

5. Claims 1-9 are allowed over the art of record.

Response to Amendment:

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 12/23/03 with respect to claims 15-25 have been fully considered but they are found persuasive.

Per claims 15-25, applicant alleges that Sitka does not teach a file system having a mechanism for relocating a portion of a file to a remote storage.

This is not found persuasive. Sitka clearly teaches relocating (moving/copying) a portion of the file from one location to another

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location in the file system (see col 6, lines 52-61 and col 16, lines 54-59).

Conclusion:

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is (703) 305-9597. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee, can be reached on (703) 305-8498.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.



VIET D. VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit 2154
1/22/04